



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/749,428	12/28/2000	Isao Yagasaki	826.1657	5687

21171 7590 05/25/2004

STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

SHERKAT, AREZOO

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 05/25/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/749,428

Applicant(s)

YAGASAKI ET AL.

Examiner

Arezoo Sherkat

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 December 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-9 have been presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Misra et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,757,920 and Misra hereinafter).

Regarding claim 1, Misra discloses a certificating system, comprising:

a registering device registering common certificate information in common with a plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 40-63);

a receiving device receiving certificate information of a user when the user accesses a particular service of the plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 63-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-6 and Col. 9, lines 9-60);

a determining device determining whether or not the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information, and a permitting device permitting the user to utilize the particular service when the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information (Col. 7, lines 6-21 and Col. 9, lines 9-60).

Regarding claims 2 and 3, Misra discloses further comprising:

a storing device storing identification information and password information for the particular service (Col. 6, lines 63-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-7);

a certifying device certifying the user based on the identification information and the password information, and an issuing or invalidating device for issuing or invalidating the common certificate information to the user when said certifying device has successfully certified the user (Col. 6, lines 40-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-21).

Regarding claim 4, Misra discloses further comprising:

an available service managing device registering the plurality of services as available services with the common certificate information (i.e., the domain controller of a domain holds both the authentication credentials and authorization information for each of the users and machines)(Col. 5, lines 9-45).

Regarding claim 5, Misra discloses a terminal unit, comprising:

a transmitting device transmitting common certificate information in common with a plurality of services when a user accesses a particular service of the plurality of services (Col. 9, lines 43-54), and a service utilizing device providing the particular service to the user when the user has been successfully certified based on the common certificate information (i.e., each domain controller holds information about users and

machines for which the domain is the home domain)(Col. 4, lines 45-65 and Col. 6, lines 40-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-67 and Col. 8, lines 1-65).

Regarding claim 6, Misra discloses a computer-readable recording medium on which a program for a computer is recorded, said program causing the computer to perform:

receiving certificate information of a user when the user accesses a particular service of a plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 63-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-6 and Col. 9, lines 9-60);

determining whether or not the certificate information of the user corresponds to common certificate information in common with the plurality of services, and permitting the user to utilize the particular service when the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information (Col. 7, lines 6-21 and Col. 9, lines 9-60).

Regarding claim 7, Misra discloses a certifying method, comprising:

pre-registering common certificate information in common with a plurality of services (Col. 4, lines 30-67 and Col. 5, lines 1-21);

determining whether or not certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information when the user accesses a particular service of the plurality of services, and permitting the user to utilize the particular service when the

certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information (Col. 7, lines 6-21 and Col. 9, lines 9-60).

Regarding claim 8, Misra discloses a certifying system, comprising:

registering means for registering common certificate information in common with a plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 40-63);

receiving means for receiving certificate information of a user when the user accesses a particular service of the plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 63-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-6 and Col. 9, lines 9-60);

determining means for determining whether or not the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information, and permitting means for permitting the user to utilize the particular service when the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information (Col. 7, lines 6-21 and Col. 9, lines 9-60).

Regarding claim 9, Misra discloses a propagation signal for propagating a program to a computer, the program causing the computer to perform:

receiving certificate information of a user when the user accesses a particular service of a plurality of services (Col. 6, lines 63-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-6 and Col. 9, lines 9-60);

determining whether or not the certificate information of the user corresponds to common certificate information in common with the plurality of services, and permitting

the user to utilize the particular service when the certificate information of the user corresponds to the common certificate information (Col. 7, lines 6-21 and Col. 9, lines 9-60).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ross et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,553,143,
Ramasubramani et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,233,577,
Reardon, U.S. Patent No. 6,212,635,
Martineau et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,893,910, and
Wyman, U.S. Patent No. 5,260,999.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arezoo Sherkat whose telephone number is (703) 305-8749. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30 Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (703) 305-9648. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2131

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Arezoo Sherkat
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100
May 17, 2004



AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100